SFS is 'where it's at' for farm equipment

By **RICHARD DAVIS**

THE Southern Farm Show has workshops, associations, exhibits and entertainments, but many farmers would tell you their favorite thing to see at the show is all the equipment on display. Sure, farmers want to visit all the events and workshops — but let's face it, meeting friends and looking at new equipment and products is pure fun.

Seeing the new equipment is as beneficial for them as anything else at the farm show, too. Farming is all about how they can "make more, save more," and that is what farming technology is all about.

The huge new tractors with all the muscle get plenty of attention. But attendees should be on the lookout for new models of smaller equipment items as well.

Vermeer will introduce its next generation of balers, the 6640 and 6650, at this year's Southern Farm Show. Check out KMC's new Cover Crop Roller, designed to keep heavy cover crops under control; it also helps control weeds, too.

In addition, Atlantic Power Solutions plans to exhibit new irrigation pumps and equipment at the show. Hill Top Tire will have farm-equipment tires on display, including some big tires for big equipment like silage and manure trucks.

Also, homeowners and farmers with an eye toward energy efficiency will want to check out new models of wood stoves by Pro-Fab at the Bates Distributing exhibit. The entire show abounds with sights featuring new equipment like this.

The Southern Farm Show will be held Wednesday to Friday, Jan. 30-Feb. 1, at the North Carolina State Fairgrounds in Raleigh. Hours of the show are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Show admission and parking are free. Learn more at www.southernfarmshow.com, or call 800-849-0248.

'The future of wood heat'

BATES Distributors will be at the Southern Farm Show with outdoor wood burning equipment from Pro-Fab, a line the company recently added to its existing offerings. Soaring fuel costs makes burning wood more attractive, but increasingly stringent regulations makes it smart to burn that wood cleanly.

Bates says new Empyre Elite XT models from Pro-Fab fit the bill. These units make use of double-chambered burners that take advantage of gasification principles to burn more efficiently, with fewer emissions. Pro-Fab says its efficient units that burn less wood are "the future of wood heat."

The Elite XT models have self-regulating controls; they can

provide heat on demand with a consistent heat output and constant water temperatures. A refractory fire-brick lining maximizes heat retention. The units can be installed indoors or outdoors. They are U.S. EPA white tag-qualified, and Pro-Fab says its dual combustion downdraft systems reduce emissions by 90%. This gasification technology is rated at 89% efficiency.

Bates will have the Elite XT-100 and the Elite XT-200 models at its Outdoor Exhibits No. 8221 display. The Elite XT-100 has a peak heat output of 125,000 BTU/hour with furnace dimensions of 36 inches by 59 inches by 64 inches.

The Elite XT-200 has a peak heat output of 220,000 BTU/hour, Its furnace dimensions are 40.5 inches by 67 inches by 69.5 inches

For more information, visit the Bates Distributors exhibit at the Southern Farm Show. Call the company at 601-565-0534, or write Bates Distributors, 12345 Road 505, Philadelphia, MS 39350.

Source: Southern Farm Show

New Bush Hog products at SFS

BUSH Hog is synonymous with cutting equipment. For 2013 the company will have some new models at its Southern Farm Show exhibit.

3815 Flex Wing Rotary Cutter

This is the model Bush Hog advertises as its "most rugged 15-foot rotary cutter." Use it in applications such as roadside cutting, pasture maintenance or taming set-aside farmland. The 3815 is designed with the durability, reliability and performance needed for the most demanding uses.

This model uses an industry first 3.00-inch OD output shaft for all cutting gearboxes, combined with steel-reinforced blade-pan weldments that provide the strength and ruggedness to handle the toughest mowing jobs. It also has patent-pending oil-sight gauges that allow the operator to actually "see" the oil level in all three cutting gearboxes from the ground, using no tools. Another feature is "EZ" lube drivelines, where each grease zerk on every driveline is aligned every fifth revolution. These help ensure your cutter is properly lubricated before each use.

The 3815 is also equipped with Bush Hog's heaviest-duty axle and axle arms, along with an enhanced independent spring axle system that absorbs more shock loads at the wheels.

ROUGH AND READY: Bush Hog says the 3815 Cutter is its toughest, roughest 15-inch model. It features steel-reinforced blade-pan weldments.

GOOD PERFORMANCE, GOOD PRICE: The small rancher and/or landowner seems to be one target market for Bush Hog's RF14 Rotary cutter.A tractor in the 50-to-900horsepower range will work just fine with this model.

RF15 Flex Wing Rotary Cutter

Another Bush Hog rotary cutter offers good performance teamed with a good price. Bush Hog says its model RF15 Flex Wing Rotary Cutter is the ideal 15-foot mowing solution for grass, weeds and small saplings up 1.5 inches in diameter.

The RF15 has many of the features of Bush Hog's heavy-duty, flex-wing rotary cutters, but is value-priced for the landowner or small rancher with a tractor in the 50-to-90-horsepower range.

This unit features a convenient design with a smooth center-section top deck for easy cleaning when the work is done.

Also, all three cutting decks of the RF15 cutter feature unobstructed undersides, allowing for a cleaner cut with lower horsepower consumption.

Source: Southern Farm Show

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